

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EA-07 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /093 W

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R 191145Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3237

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 2584

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CE, BG

SUBJ: CEYLONese REACTION TO BANGLADESH EVENTS

1. SRI LANKA GOVT HAS ISSUED NO OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON CHANGE IN BANGLADESH GOVT. PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE, IN RESPONSE TO NEWSPAPER REPORTER'S QUESTION, IS QUOTED AS FOLLOWS:  
"I AM TOTALLY AGAINST POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS OR POLITICAL MURDERS PARTICULARLY OF THOSE WHO HAD PERFORMED SERVICE TO THEIR NATION. IT IS ALSO REPUGNANT TO THE BASIC CONCEPTS OF HUMANITY. I AM DEEPLY SHOCKED BY THE MANNER OF MUJIBUR RAHMAN'S DEATH AND ALSO APPARENTLY OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY".

ACCORDING TO PRESS, MRS BANDARANAIKE HAD EARLIER DECLINED TO COMMENT ON SITUATION IN BANGLADESH.

2. TROTSKYIST LANKA SAMA SAMAJ PARTY (LSSP), ONE OF PARTIES IN GOVT COALITION, ISSUED  
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STATEMENT ON AUG 18 CRITICISING NEW BANGLADESH RULERS FOR MURDER OF MUJIBUR RAHMAN AND ARGUING

THAT CHANGE IN GOVT IS IMPERIALIST PLOT  
SIMILAR TO ONE IN INDIA TO GET RID OF MRS GANDHI.  
STATEMENT WAS CARRIED PROMINENTLY BY DAILY  
NEWSPAPERS. EDITORIAL IN COMMUNIST PARTY, MOSCOW-  
WING (CP/M) NEWSPAPER "ATHTHA" AUG 18 WAS EVEN  
MORE VIRULENT (CP/M IS ALSO PARTY IN GOVERNING  
COALITION"). IT DESCRIBES EVENTS IN BANGLADESH AS  
"BRUTUAL AND INHUMAN MASSACRE". EDITORIAL  
SPECIFICALLY CHARGES THAT OVERTHROW OF MUJIB WAS BACKED  
BY CIA, SUPPORTED BY CHINESE AND FINANCED BY PL-480  
FUNDS. IT SEES THIS AS PARTY OF GENERAL CONSPIRACY  
TO SUBVERT AND OVERTHROW GOVTS IN SOUTH  
ASIA CHARGING THAT SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES PREVAILED  
IN INDIA PRIOR TO MRS GANDYIN'S CRACKDOWN AND  
INSINUATES THAT SRI LANKA FACES SAME THREAT.

3. COMMENT: SRI LANKA HAS EXTENDED DIPLOMATIC  
RECOGNITION TO BANGLADESH BUT NEITHER  
COUNTRY HAS ACCREDITED ANY REPRESENTATIVES TO  
OTHER. POINT OF INFORMAL CONTACT HAS BEEN NEW  
DELHI. MDFA OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SOUTH ASIA HAS TOLD  
US THAT, IN PAST TWO MONTHS, THERE HAVE BEEN  
DISCUSSIONS LEADING TO CONCURRENT ACCREDITATION OF RESPECTIVE  
AMBASSADORS IN NEW DELHI TO EACH OTHR'S COUNTRY.  
HE DID NOT FEEL THAT RECENT EVENTS  
IN BANGLADESH WOULD INTERFERE WITH THESE  
DISCUSSIONS.  
VAN HOLLEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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